

*The End of Overeating*  
Reading Comprehension Answers

- 1. It can be inferred from the author's description of the woman eating (lines 17 – 26) that**

*(D) The author is disgusted by the woman's consumption.*

**Why?** A is incorrect because we have no idea where the woman likes to eat. B is incorrect because we can infer that the woman isn't even aware of what she's eating, so she doesn't truly have the capacity to enjoy it. C is incorrect because her efficiency is detracting from her dining experience rather than enhancing it. The author never brings up anything about eating healthfully in those lines, so E is also out. We can infer that he's disgusted by her consumption because of his judgment he places on her: "Had she known someone was watching her, I'm sure she would have eaten differently." This implies that she would have been ashamed to eat as she had, thus showing the author's distaste for her eating habits.

- 2. According to the passage, the main reason people overeat is**

*(B) because we don't have to chew our food very much*

**Why?** A, B and C are mentioned in the passage, but not as a causal effect of our overeating. E is a distractor answer – eating quickly is tied into not chewing, but the passage does not imply or state that we are *used to* eating quickly, so we overeat. The passage gives specific details about the refining process that makes our food easier to swallow, allowing us to eat more than we should, thus answer B.

- 3. The following are all ingredients in the egg rolls, EXCEPT**

*(E) dark meat chicken*

**Why?** It's white meat chicken (line 32)

- 4. Which of the following statements best describes the main idea of the passage?**

*(B) Because refined food is irresistible and easy to eat, it masks how unhealthy it is, leaving people unaware of the poor food choices they're making.*

**Why?** A is too broad, because it fails to mention refined food, which is key in the article. C is too narrow because it only mentions Chili's. D makes a supposition – that people will be healthier because of the article. That's never stated, so it can't be part of the main idea. E is too narrow.

- 5. In line 17 of the passage, the word "vigor" most nearly means**

*(D) Energy*

**Why?** Here's where your vocabulary knowledge or your ability to understand vocab words in context come in handy. If you didn't know the meaning of the word, you could assume some things based on the text: "...the woman attacked her food with vigor and speed." Since the conjunction "and" joins two words/phrases with similar meaning, C is out - lethargy means laziness. The word "attacked" does not coincide well with pleasure, so A is out. Since the woman was unaware of who was watching her, flamboyance, B, is out, too. That leaves D and E. Craftiness indicates sneakiness of some sort and although the woman wasn't being showy, she wasn't sneaking her food either, so D is the correct answer. It fits well with the sentence.